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THE FRY BURGLAR

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explained things to me in a
very detailed manner."**

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

US JUDGE GRANTS INJUNCTION TO HALT TRANSGENDER POLICY

A U.S. judge blocked Obama administration guidance that transgender public school students must be allowed to use bathrooms of their choice, granting a nationwide injunction sought by a group of 13 states led by Texas.

Reed O'Connor, a judge for the Northern District of Texas, said in a decision late on Sunday that the Obama administration did not follow proper procedures for notice and comment in issuing the guidelines. He also said the federal guidelines had the effect of law and contradict existing legislative and regulatory texts. The ruling by O'Connor, an appointee of Republican President George W. Bush, gives an initial victory to the states, which filed their lawsuit amid building national conservative backlash to the Obama administration's stance on transgender rights. **REUTERS**



PFIZER BOOSTS CANCER DRUG ROSTER WITH \$14B MEDIVATION DEAL

Pfizer Inc., beating out numerous other bidders, said it would buy U.S. cancer drug company Medivation Inc. for \$14 billion in cash, adding its blockbuster prostate cancer drug Xtandi to the company's growing oncology roster. Medivation shares were up 20 percent at \$80.43 in midday trading, just shy of the offer price of \$81.50 per share. Shares of Pfizer, the largest U.S. drugmaker, were little changed. The offer is at a substantial premium to Sanofi SA's initial offer to buy Medivation for \$52.50 in April that pushed the San Francisco-based company to put itself up for sale. The deal, which Pfizer said would immediately boost its earnings, comes four months after it and Ireland-based Allergan Plc scrapped their \$160 billion merger. Pfizer has since bought Anacor Pharmaceuticals Inc. in a \$5.2 billion deal to add an eczema gel to its portfolio. **REUTERS**

GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY SAY EUROPE MUST MOVE FORWARD AFTER BREXIT

The leaders of the euro zone's biggest economies held talks on Monday in the aftermath of Britain's shock decision to leave the European Union and said Europe had to turn its back on populists who blamed Brussels for all its problems. Speaking on an aircraft carrier off the Italian island of Ventotene, Germany's Angela Merkel, France's Francois Hollande and Italy's Matteo Renzi issued calls for closer security cooperation and better opportunities for young people. In a meeting heavy on symbolism, the three leaders visited Ventotene to lay a wreath on the tomb of Altiero Spinelli, an Italian intellectual seen as a founding father of European unity. **REUTERS**



Is Diner en Blanc worth the hype?



Art Museum view **HUGH E DILLON**

Our editor took to the Art Museum to find out.



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I admit, I was confused by the concept of Diner en Blanc at first. I have to spend money to buy all-white attire, bring my own white table, chairs and food, and then pay a \$45 entrance fee?

I was pretty skeptical, especially with not knowing where all the money was going. This wasn't a charity event.

But before casting judgment, I had to experience it for myself and invited my friend Becca to join me.

Buying a portable table, white chairs, white tablecloth, white cloth napkins and white totes to carry everything was easy thanks to Amazon Prime. My total came to \$121.18, split between Becca and me. The rest of the items for our table, like the flowers and wine glasses, we already had.

While Diner en Blanc had incredible catering options for the evening, we decided to dive head-first into the cheese selection at Whole Foods — making our very own custom charcuterie board. We also brought the recommended two bottles of wine.

The hardest part about

the whole evening, however, was carrying our stuff — especially the table and chairs, and couldn't understand why we had to meet our group at a separate location from the main site, and then take a bus there.

But once I saw clusters of attendees dressed in white and setting up their tables at this year's location — the iconic Art Museum steps — I let myself get swept up by the magic of it all.

Diner en Blanc first started in Paris 30 years ago when Francois Pasquier invited a group of friends to picnic in the park. So they could easily find each other, he advised everyone to wear white.

In 2011, his son decided to bring the event to the United States, and that's when Diner en Blanc Philadelphia's co-hosts, Natanya DiBona and Kayli Moran, first learned of it, holding the inaugural event a year later.

The money from ticket sales actually goes toward covering event costs, according to the co-host, and Diner en Blanc does donate tickets to local charities every year to be auctioned off.

Once everyone had their table set up, our

group leader waved her white napkin in the air to let us know we could begin our feast.

While Becca sat across from me, the people around us were strangers but quickly turned into new friends.

Tom had been to Diner en Blanc last year and loved it. "I think it's a great way to meet new people and socialize in a different type of setting," he said. "Getting here was easier with the buses than last year — which required a lot of walking."

After having our fill of wine and cheese, everyone at our table was ready to explore and dance before lighting sparklers at 9:15 p.m.

There were all sorts of sights to be seen — marriage proposals, break-dancers, strolling violinists and people jumping into the big fountain (which we were told not to do).

While many photos were taken, for the most part, people weren't on their phones. They were living in the moment.

When it came time to light our sparklers to the music of Coldplay's "Viva La Vida," I felt like a little kid. This was actually my first time ever holding a sparkler and under the



Jennifer Logue with wine and cheese plate **BECCA SLOMOWITZ**

light of the full moon, surrounded by a sea of white and everyone else's sparklers, it was an experience I'll never forget.

Sure, Diner en Blanc may seem frivolous to some but unless you've been there and really let yourself go, you won't get it.

Becca said it best: "The individuality and creativity of each and every person there was really incredible. In a way, everyone at Diner en Blanc came together to create a living art installation."

Would I go to Diner en Blanc again? Most definitely. What would I do differently? Well, I'd probably pack plastic wine glasses since we broke one of ours on the way. I'd also buy one of those Coleman tables that can be carried as a backpack. Aside from that, I wouldn't have changed a thing.

Logue responds to DEB critics at metro.us